



ANNUAL REPORT

éDUMBE MUNICIPALITY

2008 / 2009
FINANCIAL YEAR

eDUMBE MUNICIPALITY**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009****INDEX****Page**

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INTRODUCTION

MAYORS FOREWORD

All sphere of government have a constitutional mandate of ensuring that services are provided. Local government is the sphere that is close to the people. In eDumbe Municipality we not only focus on basic services delivery but we endeavour to ensure that services needed by people are delivered.

Municipality has grown a culture of public participation, several meetings have been held in all wards. The purpose of these meetings is not just to comply with local government, Municipal Systems Act (Act No. 32 of 2000) but is to get public views and do what we can. This has strengthened us relationship and understanding as the community. It has also ensured that what is done by the municipality is what is needed by public.

There has been an improvement in our integrated development planning Government departments were invited to give input while the community members were leading the process through our road shows.

In the past years we have much concern about capacity and performance of our officials. As much as I cannot say we are good but I am proud to say there is major improvement as a result documentation for 2008/2009 documentation was available timely .We are optimistic that in 2009/2010 financial year a better audit report will be realized. We have to change financial system to make it user friendly. The previous system (Dolfin) was the cause of many problem like extraction information from the system for auditors. I am told that the financial system we have is indeed user friendly and known by most employees.

We have a major challenge of a very little equitable share while we have large community needs. Little equitable share is caused by the fact that we have minimal number of registered voters yet we are a population of more than 100 000.

I want to express my gratitude to our officials who worked tirelessly during financial year. I also want to thank our councillors for their commitment and co-operation. I call on all of us to work hard this financial year to do our people proud.

His Worship the Mayor: Councillor MA Hlatshwayo
eDumbe Municipality

FOREWORD BY MUNICIPAL MANAGER

I have pleasure in presenting annual report for the financial year ended 30 June 2009 for our municipality. This is our third annual report, in all our annual report I said for us to improve we need to be committed, dedicated and think positive for positive results. Looking at what we have done for the financial year indeed there is an improvement. No magic was done but commitment from both officials and our Honourable Councillors.

Doing our AFS and getting all the information, keeping record of all departments up to date before the office of the Auditor General becomes easier to achieve unqualified audit opinion. This also requires the office of Auditor General to be positive and willing to help in resolving problems.

Unfortunately for this financial year we did not received any assistance even when we made a call for an advice as we believe that Auditor General exist to help as they also preach.

I am grateful to state that we have been able to provide most of the information required by the office of the Auditor General for the financial year. The cause of our disclaimer is the previous year's queries. At the same token it is sad to state that endeavours have been let down by the financial system. The financial system was said to be a problem and will cause éDumbe Municipality queries that we won't be able to answer. This was discussed in a meeting held on the 31st October 2007, whereby all relevant stakeholders were present and we were promised financial assistance to change the system. Because of the importance of changing the financial system and or having a good financial system, council resolved to do that.

As a rural municipality we are not generating much revenue, this has negative impact in service delivery because the needs of the people are more than the revenue we get and the majority claim to be indigent. I used the word claim because I am told that even teachers apply for indigent relief. Other challenges are lack of housing, high rate of unemployment, poverty and crime.

In addressing lack of housing, our infrastructure Portfolio Committee is working hand in hand with Department of Housing (Human Settlement) in KZN but we are led down by Department of Land Affairs. Development that was approved in 2006, has not taken place.

In ensuring that we will fulfil our constitutional mandate as per chapter 7 of the constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act 108 of 1996) and chapter 4 of Local Government: Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000) we call community meetings

These are not just mere meetings but allowing our public to chart the way forward for our primary planning tool. They also played an imperative role in enhancing the IDP meetings also gave our community members an opportunity to be problem solvers. We have Ward Committees in all wards. We have a challenge of ensuring that we make necessary resources available and necessary training to clearly articulate the needs of the people.

éDumbe is rich for tourism purposes. We have a challenge of having very few government department offices. Purpose of having government department is to service peoples' needs. This will never be achieved if the departments are not closed to the people. And they do not even participate in local municipality activities.

éDUMBE Municipality will continue to strive to satisfy the needs of the communities, capacitate employees and Councillors, and utilize our limited resources for the benefit of all.

I thank all the official of éDumbe Municipality for dedication and hard work, Councillors and all stakeholders for their support towards service delivery and development of éDumbe Municipality.

A.M.T. PUTINI
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report is a legal requirement in terms of Chapter 12 of Municipal Finance Management Act, No. 56 of 2003. The purpose of this report is:

- ✓ To provide a record of the activities of the municipality
- ✓ To provide a report on performance in service delivery and budget implementation; and
- ✓ To promote accountability to the local community

The MFMA requires the municipality to report on all aspects of performance providing a true, honest and accurate account of the goals set by council and success or otherwise in achieving these goals. The Annual Report is thus a key performance report to the community and other stakeholders.

VISION FOR ÉDUMBE MUNICIPALITY

By 2026 the éDumbe municipality will be the most successful rural municipality in the country.

MISSION

- ✓ *Work towards a clean, healthy, attractive well-managed, sustainable **environment***
- ✓ *Strive to provide a good standard of affordable, efficient, cost effective **infrastructural services** to all residents*
- ✓ *Take decisions that will lead to a more diverse **economy** which creates sufficient job opportunities, self-employment and improves the general warfare of all*
- ✓ *Provide an environment that is safe and has a wide range of **public** facilities and services*
- ✓ *Ensure an efficient, well-trained **local government** which promotes good communication, co-operation and capacity building; and*
- ✓ *Provide effective, sustainable and affordable **services** according to the needs of the municipality's residents*

In aligning with the Provincial Priorities which are derived from the key developmental challenges related to economic and social needs of the province, one is able to draw the necessary linkage with the provincial priorities, pointing to a common vision for the Province of KwaZulu Natal.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

éDumbe Municipality is situated in the north-western part of KwaZulu-Natal. It covers an area of 1 947 km² and has a population of about 101 548 people living in 49 dispersed rural settlements and 3 urban areas, 52 settlements in total. The major urban centre is Paulpietersburg/Dumbe, which is well located in relation to the national road and rail networks. The area of jurisdiction of the municipality is demarcated into seven wards and has mainly a rural population.

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

The municipality has an Executive system with 4 Councillors on the Executive Committee. The Municipal Council of éDumbe Municipality consists of 14 Councillors with 7 Ward Councillors and 7 Proportional Councillors. The political party breakdown of the Council is indicated in the following table:

POLITICAL PARTY	NUMBER OF COUNCILLOR
INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY	9
AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS	4
DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE	1

MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE / COUNCIL COMMITTEE (COUNCILLORS)

Councillor MA Hlatshwayo (Mayor)	Councillor SM Mkhabela
Councillor ST Mthethwa (Deputy Mayor)	Councillor TP Sibeko
Councillor NZ Keswa (Speaker)	Councillor MA Shabangu
Councillor SJ Kunene (Exco Member)	Councillor MS Mncube
Councillor NN Zwane	Councillor IAT Mbatha
Councillor MP Hlomuka	Councillor NR Simelane
Councillor Dr HA Schutte	Councillor JA Scheepers

The Mayor of éDumbe Municipality is Councillor M A Hlatshwayo, who is a PR Councillor.

ÉDUMBE MUNICIPALITY MANAGEMENT

The Municipal Manager has been appointed as from the 06th August 2009. Currently there are 4 Head of Departments assisting the Municipal Manager to have a well managed, efficient and people orientated municipality confirming it to the Batho Pele principles. The Municipality can be broken down into the following Departments:

DEPARTMENT	NAME OF HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
MUNICIPAL MANAGER	Mr AMT PUTINI
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	Mrs PHZ KUBHEKA
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES	Mr JT MBOKAZI
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Miss ZM MDLAZI
DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE	Mr NFT BUTHELEZI

CORPORATE IDENTITY

GRADING OF LOCAL AUTHORITY	GRADE 3 MUNICIPALITY
AUDITORS	AUDITOR GENERAL
BANKERS	FIRST NATIONAL BANK
REGISTERD OFFICES	10 HOOG STRAAT PRIVATE BAG X308 PAULPIETERSBURG 3180

KEY CHALLENGES

The key challenges for the Municipality include:

1. The éDumbe municipality is located in one of the poorest and poverty stricken district municipalities in KwaZulu-Natal.
2. A large rural population that depends on the nearby urban area of Paulpietersburg for commercial and public services (e.g. health, social welfare, police services etc) places pressure on the primary node because of the lack of social and economic services within the rural areas.
3. Most of the rural settlements are small thus making service delivery costly, this effect is compounded by the aspect that only 23% of the municipality's population lives in an urban area while 77% lives in the rural hinterland of the municipality. The spatial development pattern of the municipality will have to be addressed.
4. 53% of the population of the municipality is women. Women are assumed to be acting as household heads in the absence of partners seeking employment in other urban centres. It is also accepted that these women are more disadvantaged in terms of resources. Strategies need to be developed in order to create security for women and their dependent children.
5. Close to half of the population are children, placing pressure on the need for educational and social facilities. Many of these children will be orphaned as a result of HIV/AIDS. At least 17% of the population is already infected with HIV. The severe impact on the need for health, social and welfare services over the next 20 years will have to be accommodated in the Municipalities strategy for service delivery.
6. Income levels in éDumbe tend to be quite low with 69% of the population earning less than R800 a month. The traditional and rural areas are the most poverty stricken.
7. The majority of the population relies on public transport facilities. This is primarily taxi based. The quality and efficiency of the public transport sector needs attention.
8. Although a large portion of the population has access to household electricity the low income levels in the municipality puts a severe restriction on the number of people actually using electricity as a primary means of energy. Electricity provision at schools and health facilities are especially critical. In the wake of the looming energy crises faced by this country it is vital that the Municipality adopts policy embracing the use of alternative energy sources for new residential and commercial development.

Implementation of the Property Rates Act is scheduled for July 2009 and the preparing for implementation is on schedule.

ACCESS TO SERVICES

Service delivery in éDumbe municipality remains a challenge as indicated by the Census 2001 statistics in the tables below. Levels of delivery differ greatly by ward with many **households** especially in the township and tribal areas having low levels of access electricity. These backlogs have been addressed since 2001, especially regarding electricity, water and sanitation, to such an extent that in some areas they have been totally eliminated, albeit mostly at a RDP standard.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The table below indicates the availability of social related facilities in éDUMBE municipality:

SOCIAL FACILITIES	
Schools	90
Clinics (Including Community Health Centre)	7
Shops in Rural Areas	39
Police Stations	1
Recreational Facilities	9
Old Age Home	1
Community Halls	5
Post-Offices	1
Crèche's (Not verified)	20
Law Courts	1
Hotels, Resorts & Conference Facilities	9
Cemeteries	7
Municipal Offices	3

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The emergency services in the municipal area are provided on a public-private partnership basis. The KZ261 control centre was formed by the Local Municipality, The Farmers Association & a security firm, Tango Foxtrot. The KZ 261 Control Centre provides 24/7 monitoring services. The municipality has one fire-engine for the area. There are currently 12 trained voluntary firemen on 24/7 standby. The fully equipped rapid response vehicle forms the heart of the municipality's emergency services. A **toll free number (0800 261 261)** can be used to report any emergency, so that emergency services can be deployed.

There is only one police station in Paulpietersburg that serve the whole municipal area. Long travel distances from the rural areas indicate that it is crucial to provide a satellite station in the densely populated rural area at Mangosuthu/Bilanyoni.